

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Connecting Element for Hollow Sections of Different Cross-Section

the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that we reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

We also acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37 CFR 1.63(d), which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of the continuation-in-part application, if this is a continuation-in-part application.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for the patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):	Country:	Germany	Germany
	Appln. No.:	10104291.4	10124248.4
	Filed:	Jan. 30, 2001	May 15, 2001

We hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

MYRON COHEN, Reg. No. 17,358; THOMAS C. PONTANI, Reg. No. 29,763; LANCE J. LIEBERMAN, Reg. No. 28,437; MARTIN B. PAVANE, Reg. No. 28,337; MICHAEL C. STUART, Reg. No. 35,698; KLAUS P. STOFFEL, Reg. No. 31,668; EDWARD M. WEISZ, Reg. No. 37,257; CHI K. ENG, Reg. No. 38,870; EDWARD ETKIN, Reg. No. 37,824; JULIA S. KIM, Reg. No. 36,567; VINCENT M. FAZZARI, Reg. No. 26,879; ALFRED W. FROEBRICH, Reg. No. 38,887; ANDRES N. MADRID, Reg. No. 40,710

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Address all telephone calls to Klaus P. Stoffel, Esq. at telephone
No. (212) 687-2770.

Address all correspondence to:

Klaus P. Stoffel, Esq.
Cohen, Pontani, Lieberman & Pavane
551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210
New York, New York 10176

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of First Joint Inventor: Jörg Hein

Inventor's signature: J. Hein

Date: 11/14/01
Month/Day/Year

Residence: Am Hohstetter 17, D-78256 Steisslingen, Germany

Citizenship: German

Post Office Address: same as above

Full Name of Second Joint Inventor: Martin Feuerstein

Inventor's signature: M. Feuerstein

Date: 11-14-01
Month/Day/Year

Residence: Singener Str. 7/1 D-78315 Radolfzell, Germany

Citizenship: German

Post Office Address: same as above

Full Name of Third Joint Inventor: Olaf Gallasch

Inventor's signature: 

Date: 11/14/01
Month/Day/Year

Residence: Alpenstr. 3, D-78224 Singen, Germany

Citizenship: German

Post Office Address: same as above

Full Name of Fourth Joint Inventor: Klaus Traub

Inventor's signature: 

Date: 11/14/01
Month/Day/Year

Residence: Kogenäcker 16, D-88630 Pfullendorf, Germany

Citizenship: German

Post Office Address: same as above